

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Long led the Pledge of Allegiance. Media representatives present: Lydia Kautz, Ulysses News.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Marilea Honstead, Civic Center Manager; John Crosby, Fire Chief; O'LaVonne Michael, Senior Center Director; Kristy Frazee, Health Department Administrator; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; Jerry Jo Deckert, EMS Director; Greg Wellbrock, County Appraiser; and Rita Gee, County Treasurer. Loy Henderson, Citizen, joined this part of the meeting. After department reports the department heads discussed problems with the current pay plan schedule and employee morale in their departments. They requested permission from the commissioners to proceed with a Pay Plan Committee Meeting. The committee would bring any pay plan schedule and policy recommendations to commissioners for approval. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the meetings.

Ed Poley, Volunteer for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, presented Jerry Jo Deckert with the Patriot Award and recognized the EMS and Grant County for employing and supporting our country's Service Members.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, presented information on a demo fire truck. Weis Fire and Safety Equipment will build a fire truck to Grant County's specifications and demo it for one month. The truck will be sold at a reduced price, but the County is under no obligation to purchase it. It was the consensus of commissioners to proceed with submitting Grant County's specifications to build a fire truck to Weis Fire and Safety Equipment.

Carl Higgs made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2014 meeting, along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$134,316.33 date June 25; voucher numbers ending 144723 totaling \$380,650.14. Linda McHenry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Holly Mathes, Library Director; and Board of Trustee Members, Warren Baldwin and Jeryl Smith, presented their 2015 appropriation request of \$376,902.85 for operating expenses and \$113,469.72 for employee benefits. To meet the budget cuts made by the commissioners, the Library reduced staff and cut the hours the Library is open. The current request has a 2% wage increase for Library staff.

The commissioners discussed the Grant County Fair Parade and the request from Ginger Anthony. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Parade Committee to line up horses on the old care home property prior to the parade.

The Health Department bad debt write-offs were reviewed. Linda McHenry made the motion to allow the bad debt write-offs totaling \$1,824.90. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kristy Frazee, Health Department Administrator, met with commissioners. Marty Long moved to convene as the Grant County Board of Health. Ms. Frazee reviewed Health Department (HD) information. 1) Kansas Health Homes, Grant County has 43 eligible for this Medicaid State Plan Program - the HD chose not to participate due to service structure limitations and the need of additional assistance to comply with the grant. 2) A proposal for electronic health records was reviewed. Ms. Frazee allowed for the system in the 2015 budget but said it is not mandatory for HD's at this time. 3) Public Health Department Accreditation, a certification to measure a health department's performance against a set of nationally recognized standards - because of the costs associated with it, Ms. Frazee explained it wasn't a high priority. 4) Healthy Kansans 2020, a community plan to promote healthy eating and physical activity - the HD is working on writing a plan with the help of other agencies. 5) Bio-Terrorism Grant, a State funded grant for disaster preparedness - State funding requirements will change the way funds are distributed in 2015. Commissioners had no questions and Commissioner Long adjourned as the Grant County Board of Health. The commissioners reviewed the Health Department 2015 budget request of \$511,250.00 with Ms. Frazee.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; and Randy Klein, Shop Foreman, presented a quote from American Implement and requested permission to purchase two John Deere tractors. Linda McHenry made the motion to purchase two John Deere 6140D Cab Tractors from American Implement at a cost of \$62,748.32 each with no trade in, and for this expense to be paid from the Road Machinery fund; and dispose of the two old tractors on Purple Wave. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. A road crossing permit was reviewed and approved. Mr. McCauley requested permission to seek bids to replace a trailer at the Transfer Station. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow bids.

The Legacy at Park View Board of Trustees, Greg Davis, Kathy Olson, Terrance Maas; and Administrator, Kim Doty, presented the care home and assisted living 2015 appropriation requests, \$1,061,038.00 for the care home; and \$263,973.00 for the assisted living. The board based the appropriation request on the care home facility maintaining 47 residents.

Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital Board of Trustees, David Higgs, Mike Brewer; Art Frable, Administrator; and James Forrest, Director of Finance, presented a 2015 appropriation request of \$1,050,000.00, the same amount as the last two years. Mr. Higgs stated the 2013 audit revealed cash reserve was over two million and financials were looking favorable. Mr. Frable explained in the past they had been given incentives by the government for enforcing federal regulations, but now they will not give incentives but assess penalties for none compliance. Given the reduction by federal and commercial

health insurance payers, the board believes additional funding may be necessary but understands financial support for the hospital is near maximum ability by the County.

The commissioners recessed at noon for lunch at Park View Assisted Living with the Hospital Board of Trustees. Those attending from the hospital were: Art Frable, Administrator; James Forrest, Director of Finance; and Trustees, David Higgs, Mary Moyer, and Mike Brewer. General discussion was held.

Kevin Shapland, Fair Board President, presented the 2015 budget request of \$64,300.00 to fund the Annual Free Fair. The request is \$9,050.00 more than funded in 2014. The Fair Board would like to fund additional entertainment and add a salary budget line to supplement the Civic Centers budget.

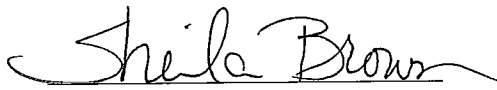
Marilea Honstead, Civic Center Manager, presented a 2015 budget request of \$269,600.00 for the Civic Center and Fairgrounds, along with the five year plan.

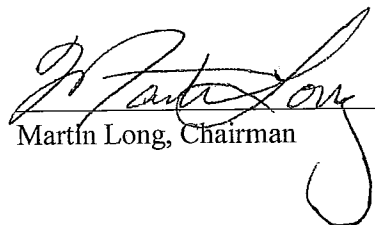
Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds, presented two budget requests for 2015, one with two full time employees and another with two full time employees and a part time employee. Ms. McDaniel explained the need for a part time employee in her office.

The Clerk requested clarification on her office hours for 2015. She also shared the Courthouse individual office hours and the confusion it caused with patrons visiting the Courthouse for business. The Register of Deeds stayed for this portion of the meeting. After a brief discussion on budgets, it was the consensus of the commissioners all Courthouse County offices are to open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 5:00 p.m., starting January 1, 2015. To comply with the change the Clerk's Office and the Register of Deeds Office will go to 40 hour work weeks starting January 1, 2015. Commissioner Long instructed the Clerk to advertise the changed hours in December.

The farm lease agreement with Joyce Klein was reviewed. A decision on the agreement was tabled until contact could be made with Ms. Klein.

Linda McHenry made the motion to adjourn at 2:00 p.m., to meet again in regular session on July 15, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

  
Sheila Brown, County Clerk

  
Martin Long, Chairman

